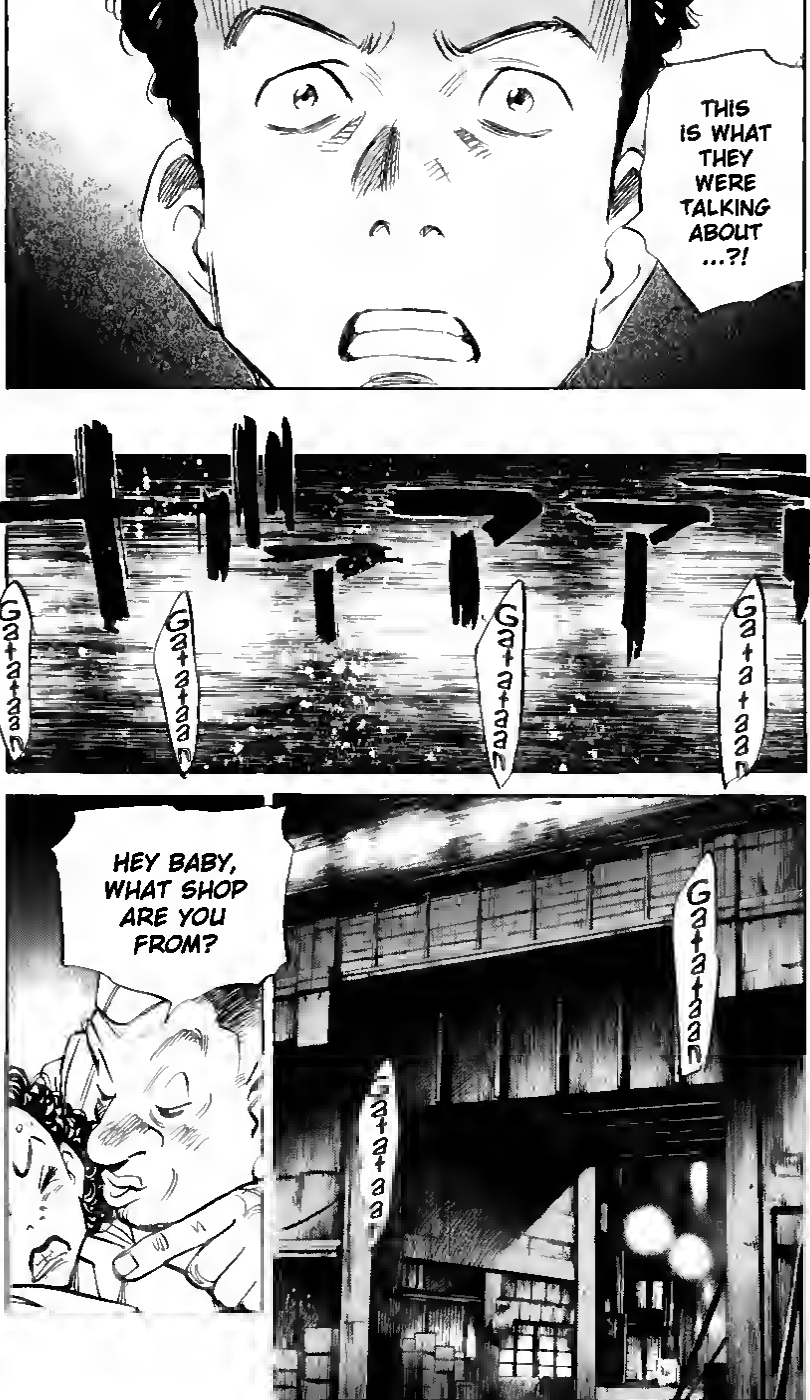
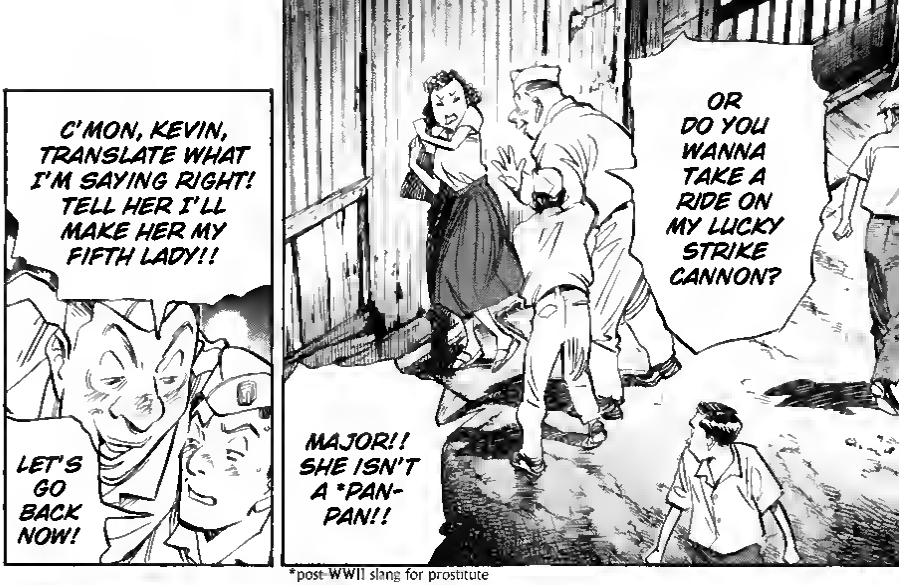
Chapter 6 Black or White?


THIS IS WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT ...?!
Ga+a+aaa
Ga+a+aaa
Ga+a+aaa
Ga+a+aaa
HEY BABY, WHAT SHOP ARE YOU FROM?
Ga+a+aaa
Ga+a+aaa

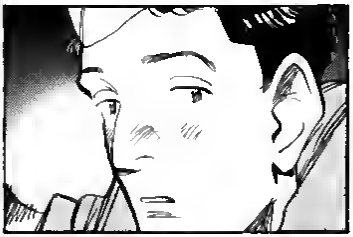

C'MON, KEVIN, TRANSLATE WHAT I'M SAYING RIGHT! TELL HER I'LL MAKE HER MY FIFTH LADY!!
LET'S GO BACK NOW!
MAJOR!! SHE ISN'T A *PAN-PAN!!
OR DO YOU WANNA TAKE A RIDE ON MY LUCKY STRIKE CANNON?

*post-WWII slang for prostitute

OWWWW...
TCH! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' SITTIN' IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?!
AHHHHHH...
HERE, GO ON, PICK UP THAT MONEY!!
CHA RIH
HURRY AND PICK IT UP ALREADY, DAMMIT!!
MAJOR!!
I'M SICK OF DEALIN' WITH ALL THESE WEAK-ASS JAPS!!
GUFEH!!
ENOUGH ALREADY!!

WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE OF YOURS, KEVIN?
AH... ER, IT'S JUST ...
THERE'S NO REASON TO GO ANY FURTHER, IS THERE?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW, I'M ALL SOBERED UP NOW. WE'RE GOIN' TO ANOTHER PLACE!!
HMPH!
I'LL HELP YOU BACK A LITTLE. WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
ARE YOU AL-RIGHT?
Ahhh ...
That way..

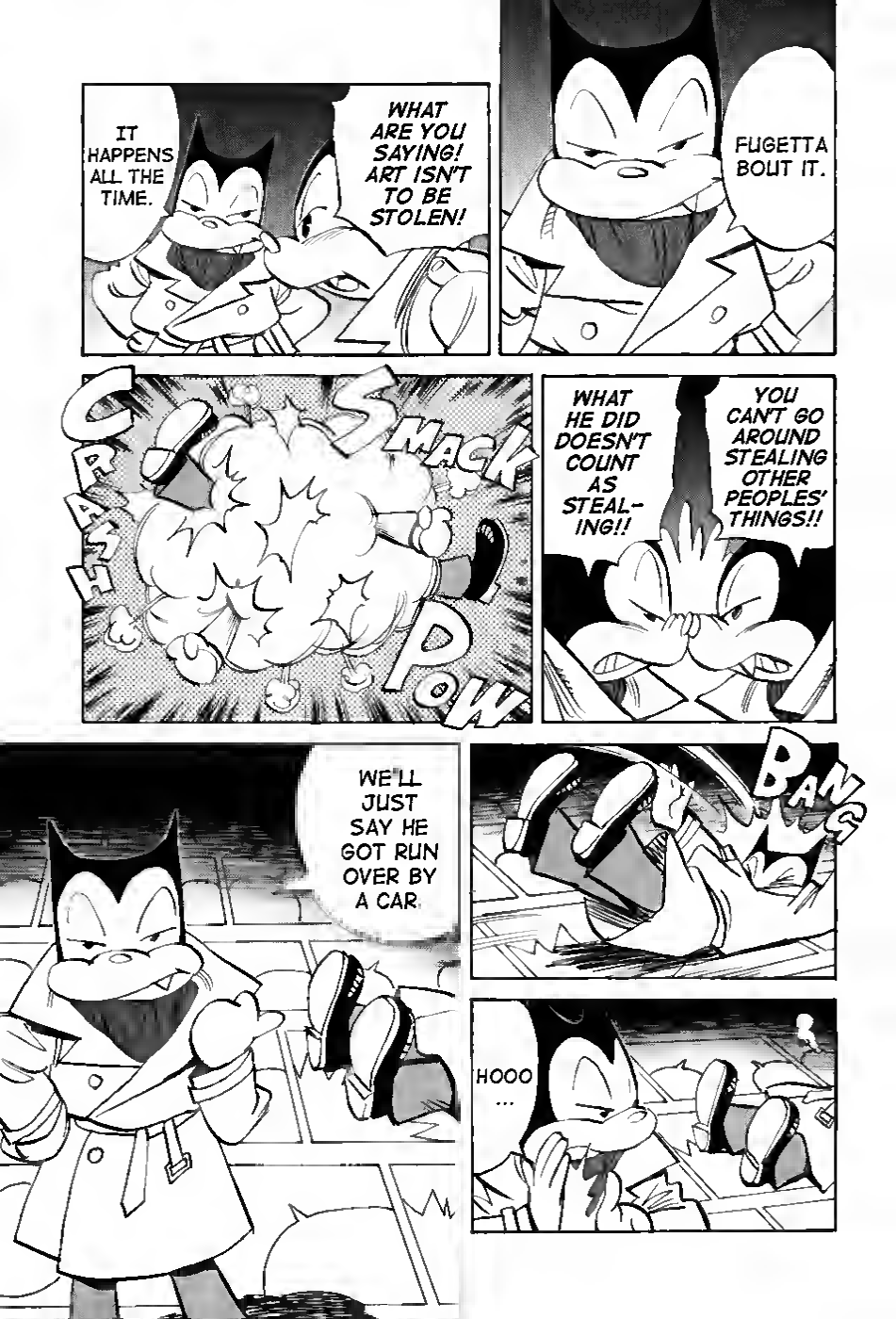
NO, IT'S FINE ...
Sorry about this It's right over there...



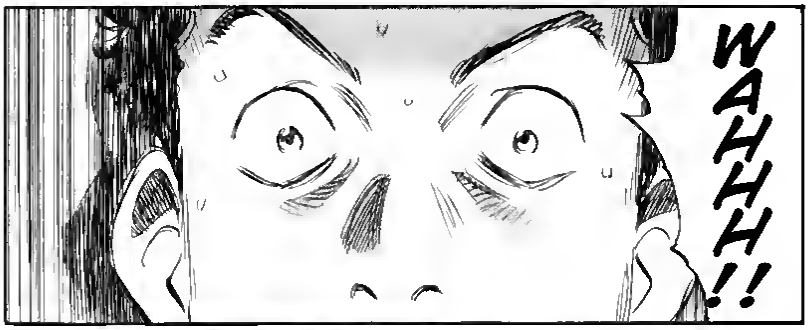
THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED ...
THAT'S WHEN...
I SAW IT...
H... HEY, DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHO DREW THIS?
STRANGELY ENOUGH, PRAYING TO THIS GOD LETS US SOMEHOW MAKE IT THROUGH EVERY NEW DAY.

HEY, DO ANY OF YOU GIRLS KNOW?
I DUNNO. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN HERE.
STOLE ...?
I STOLE IT.
.....
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF YOU FIND OUT WHO DREW IT?
"BILLY BAT" IS... SOMETHING I UNCONSCIOUSLY TOOK FROM THIS PICTURE ...

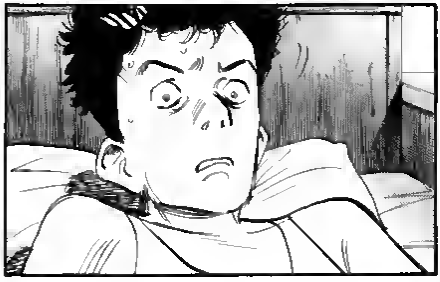
SO YOU FINALLY FOUND ME.
RIDICU-LOUS!
NOW YOU JUST NEED TO FIND THE ARTIST AND GET HIS PERMIS-SION.
SEE, IT WAS WORTH COMING TO JAPAN AFTER ALL, WASN'T IT?
EH?
IT'S JUST SOME STINKIN' GRAFFITI!

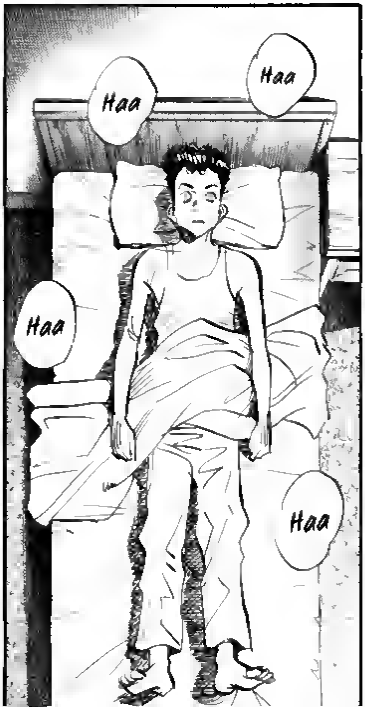

IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING! ART ISN'T TO BE STOLEN!
FUGETTA BOUT IT.
CRASH
SMACK
POW
WHAT HE DID DOESN'T COUNT AS STEAL-ING!!
YOU CAN'T GO AROUND STEALING OTHER PEOPLES' THINGS!!
WE'LL JUST SAY HE GOT RUN OVER BY A CAR.
BANG
HOOO ...

KEEP QUIET.

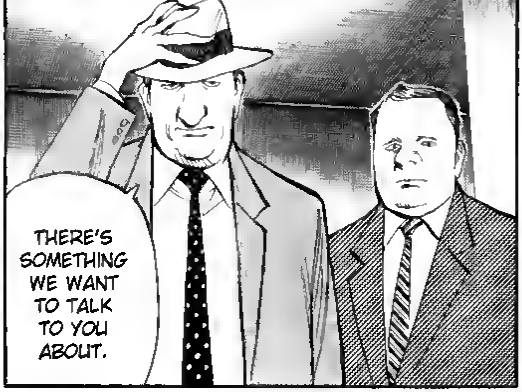

WAHH!!

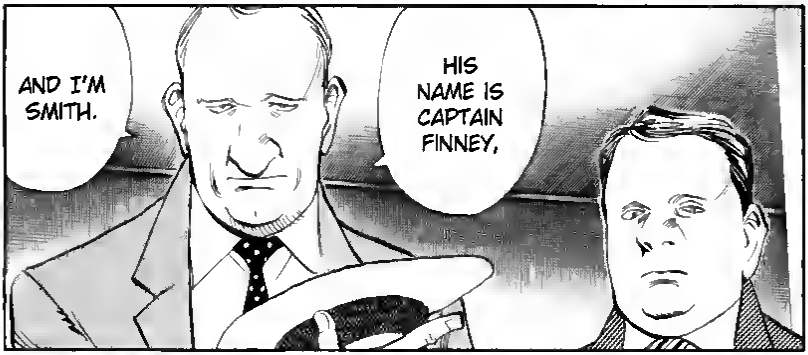
KEVIN YAMA-GATA, I PRE-SUME?
!!



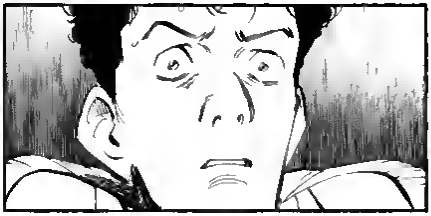

Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa

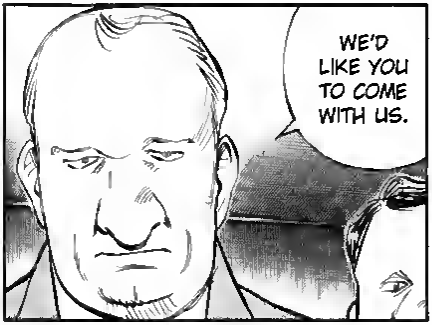
WH... WHO ARE YOU?

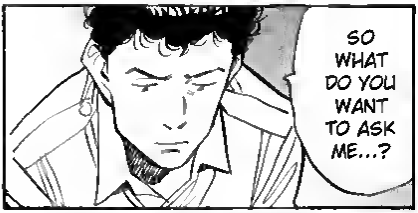

THERE'S SOMETHING WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

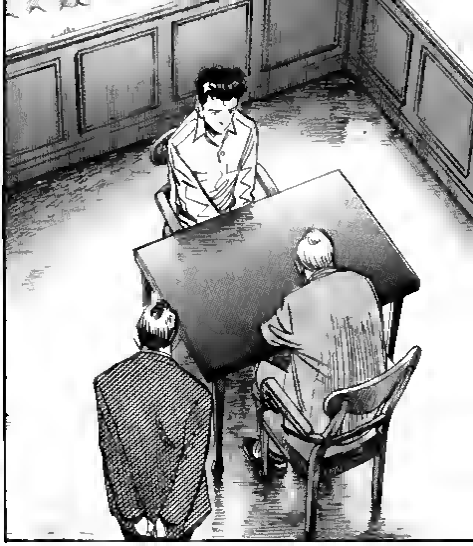

HIS NAME IS CAPTAIN FINNEY,
AND I'M SMITH.

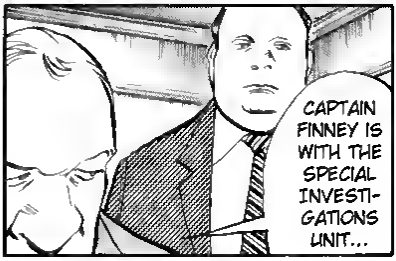
OSS




WE'D LIKE YOU TO COME WITH US.


SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ASK ME...?



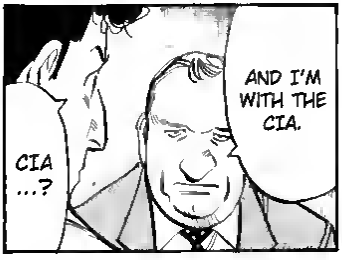

CAPTAIN FINNEY IS WITH THE SPECIAL INVESTI-GATIONS UNIT...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING QUES-TIONED HERE!!
YOU AREN'T WITH THE MILITARY POLICE, RIGHT?

.....!!

WE WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO CHARLIE ISHIZUKA.

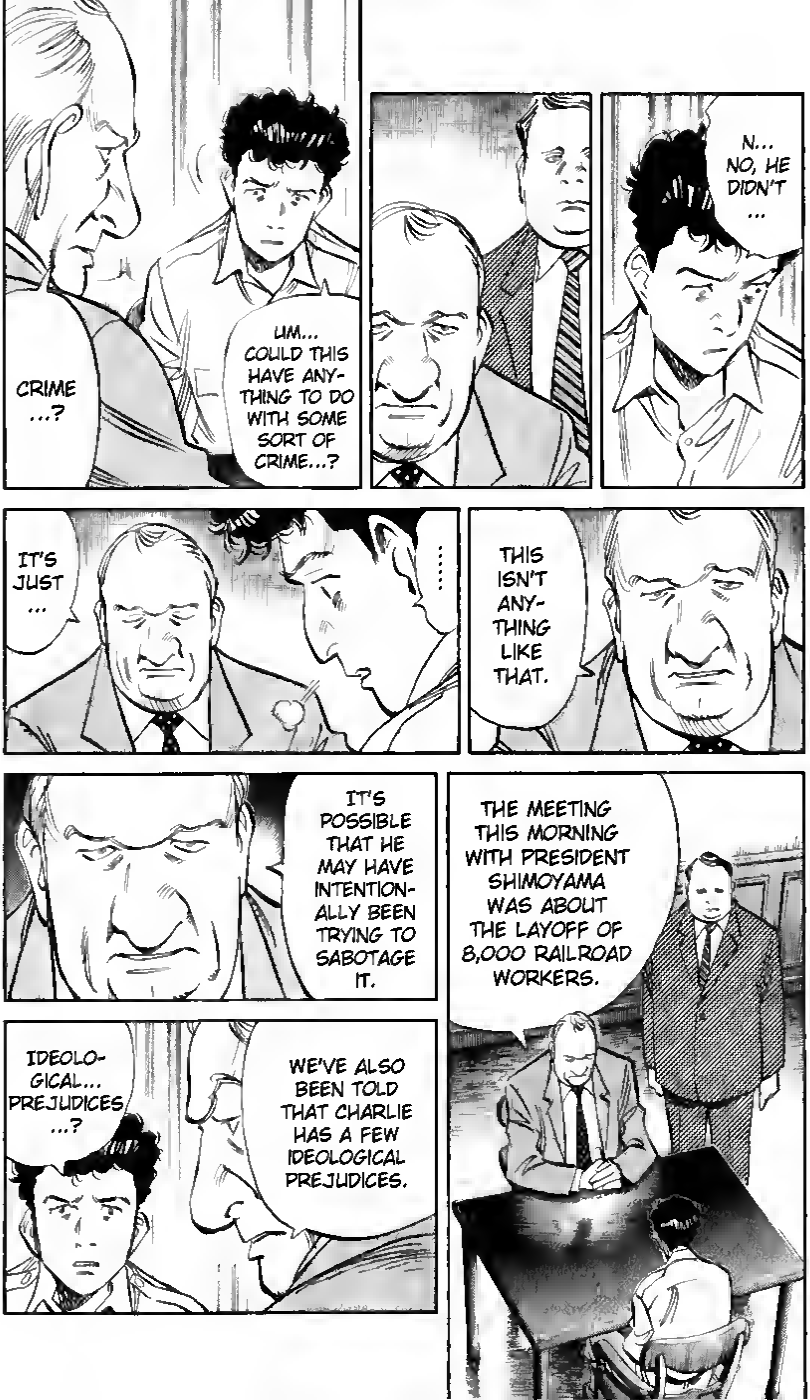
SPECIAL INVESTI-GATIONS ...?

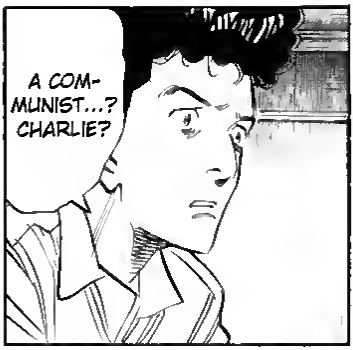

AND I'M WITH THE CIA.
CIA ...?

DO YOU KNOW... WHERE HE IS?
N... NO.
HE'S BEEN MISSING SINCE YESTER-DAY.
ACCI-DENT?
S... SOME-THING ABOUT AN ACCIDENT ...
HE WAS ABSENT THIS MORNING AT A MEETING ABOUT THE NATIONAL RAILROAD THAT PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA WAS PRESENT AT...
AH... NO, NOTH-ING...
N... NAH, I JUST HEARD A REPORT OF AN ACCIDENT SOMEWHERE, THAT'S...
ALL ...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

.....
WE KNOW THAT YOU LEFT OSS TOGETHER WITH HIM LAST NIGHT.
AND YOU WERE ALSO SEEN DRINKING WITH HIM AT A FOOD CART...
WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE CHARLIE WENT AFTER THAT.
WE STARTED DRINKING TOGETHER, AND THEN I...!!
IT... IT WAS MY FAULT!!

KEEP QUIET!
……!!
YOU GOT DRUNK AT THE CART AND THEN FELL ASLEEP …
EH?
IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT.
HE DIDN'T HAPPEN TO MENTION WHERE HE WAS GOING, DID HE?
AFTER THAT, CHARLIE WAS WITNESSED WALKING AROUND THE AREA ALONE.
……


UM... COULD THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH SOME SORT OF CRIME...?
CRIME ...?
N... NO, HE DIDN'T ...
THIS ISN'T ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
.....
IT'S JUST ...
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT HE MAY HAVE INTENTIONALLY BEEN TRYING TO SABOTAGE IT.
THE MEETING THIS MORNING WITH PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA WAS ABOUT THE LAYOFF OF 8,000 RAILROAD WORKERS.
WE'VE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT CHARLIE HAS A FEW IDEOLOGICAL PREJUDICES.
IDEOLOGICAL... PREJUDICES ...?

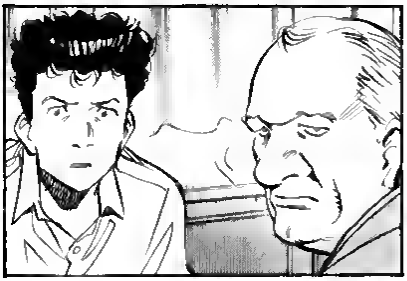

A COM-MUNIST...? CHARLIE?

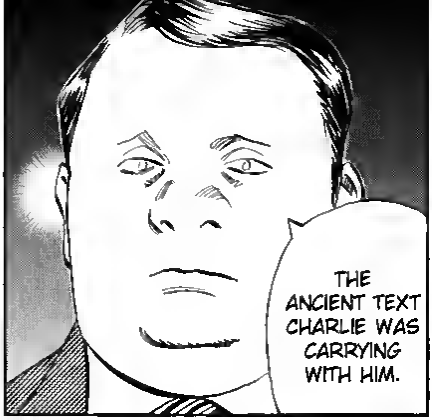
I'M CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING COMMUNISTS WHO HAVE SNUCK INTO GHQ.

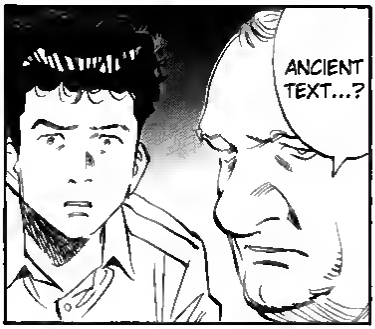
I WANT YOUR HELP.

WHERE IS THE ANCIENT TEXT?

ALSO, WHERE IS THE TEXT?



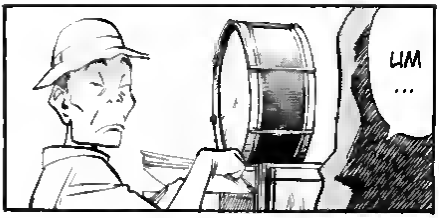

THE ANCIENT TEXT CHARLIE WAS CARRYING WITH HIM.


ANCIENT TEXT...?

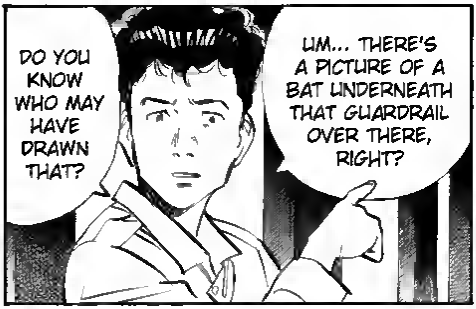
.....
黒蝙蝠

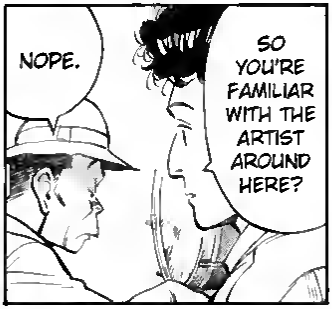
ANY-THING ...
I... DON'T KNOW.

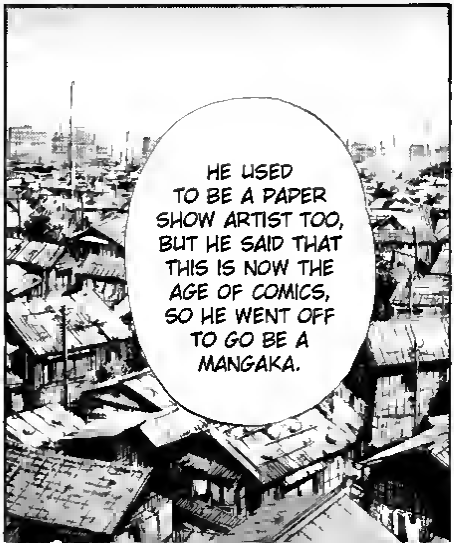
KEEP QUIET.


UM ...

YUP ...
THAT'S A PAPER SHOW, ISN'T IT...?


DO YOU KNOW WHO MAY HAVE DRAWN THAT?
UM... THERE'S A PICTURE OF A BAT UNDERNEATH THAT GUARDRAIL OVER THERE, RIGHT?


NOPE.
SO YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THE ARTIST AROUND HERE?


HE USED TO BE A PAPER SHOW ARTIST TOO, BUT HE SAID THAT THIS IS NOW THE AGE OF COMICS, SO HE WENT OFF TO GO BE A MANGAKA.

YEAH, AN ARTIST FROM KITASEN-JUU.
EHH ?!

UM ...
EXCUSE ME...
I'M, UH...
UH... UMM...
GO AWAY!!
I'M BUSY.
UMM... EXCUSE ME...

I COPIED YOUR WORK!!
WHICH ONE?
WAS IT THE GOOD ONE OR THE BAD ONE?!
WAS THE BAT YOU SAW BLACK OR WHITE?

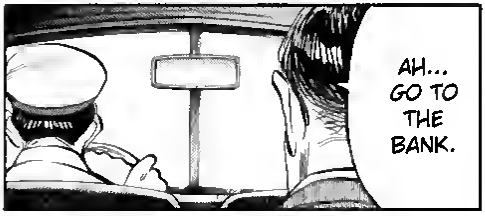
Chapter 7 The Beginning of a Labyrinth

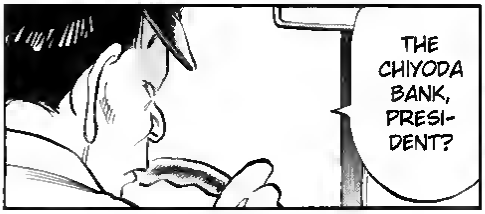
I HAVE TO BE AT THE OFFICE BY 10 TODAY.
AH, SHIRAKIYA WILL BE FINE, JUST KEEP HEADING STRAIGHT.

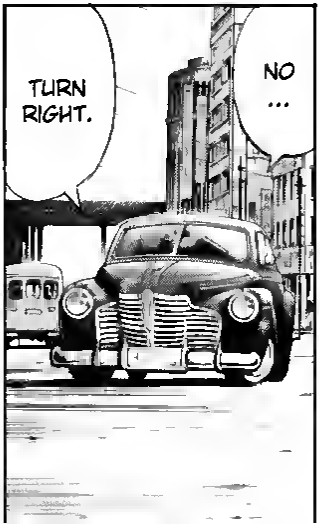
TAKE ME TO KANDA STATION.
YEAH ...

LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE STILL CLOSED.
SHALL I HEAD TO THE OFFICE?

WANT ME TO STOP HERE?
神田駅
KANDA STATION


AH... GO TO THE BANK.


THE CHIYODA BANK, PRESI-DENT?


NO ...
TURN RIGHT.

GO A BIT FASTER.

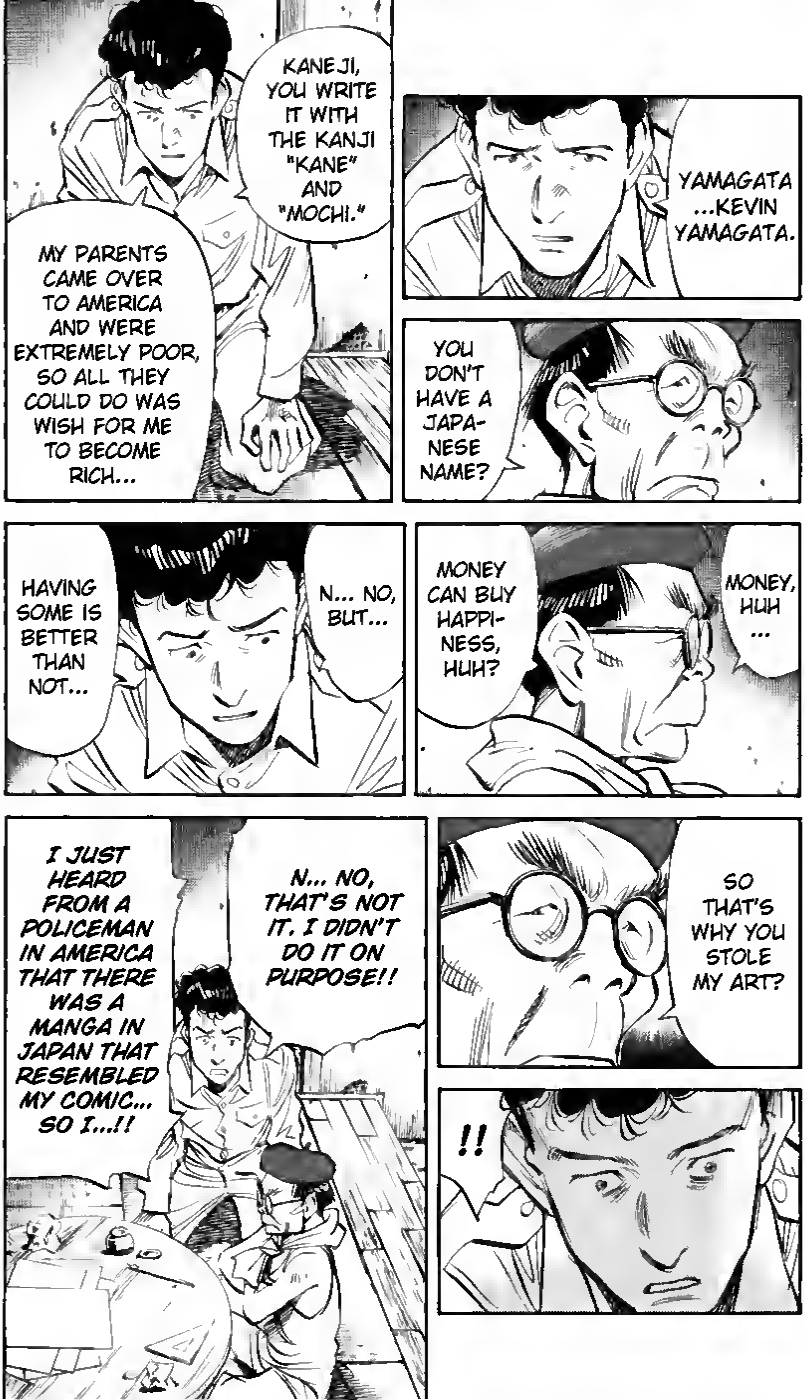
SENSEI
...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T TOUCHED IT AT ALL...

SENSEI, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT YOUR MEAL?

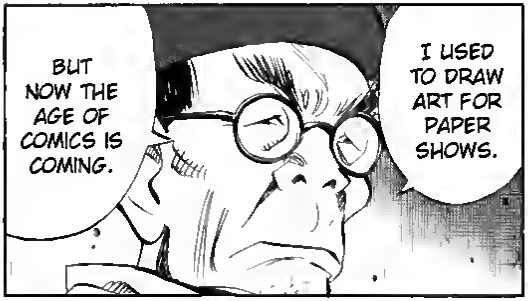
ALRIGHT... HOW ABOUT SOMETHING TO DRINK, THEN...?
カシ・カシ・
カシ・カシ・
IT'S PRETTY HOT TODAY AS WELL, HUH?
ハア・ハア・

FINISHED!!
...SO, SPEAK.
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK !!
OH ...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
AH... YES, ABOUT THAT ...
HUH?
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?

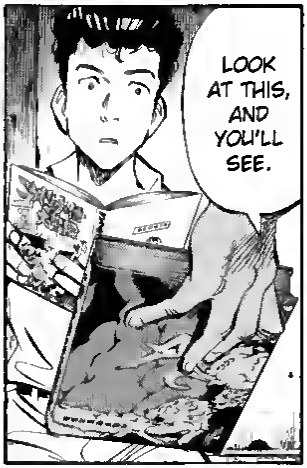

KANEJI, YOU WRITE IT WITH THE KANJI "KANE" AND "MOCHI."
MY PARENTS CAME OVER TO AMERICA AND WERE EXTREMELY POOR, SO ALL THEY COULD DO WAS WISH FOR ME TO BECOME RICH...
YAMAGATA ...KEVIN YAMAGATA.
YOU DON'T HAVE A JAPA-NESE NAME?
HAVING SOME IS BETTER THAN NOT...
N... NO, BUT...
MONEY CAN BUY HAPPI-NESS, HUH?
MONEY, HUH ...
I JUST HEARD FROM A POLICEMAN IN AMERICA THAT THERE WAS A MANGA IN JAPAN THAT RESEMBLED MY COMIC... SO I...!!
N... NO, THAT'S NOT IT. I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE!!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU STOLE MY ART?
!!

AFTER THE WAR ENDED, I LIVED IN JAPAN AND WORKED AS AN INTERPRETER.
I THINK THAT'S WHEN I SAW YOUR PICTURE, SENSEI. AND I UNCONSCIOUSLY...
こうもり小僧の大冒険
BAT BOY'S GREAT ADVENTURE
唐麻雄風・作
I SUPPOSE THIS IS THE MANGA THAT POLICEMAN SAW IN JAPAN.
IT'S A PULP BOOK I PUT OUT RIGHT AFTER THE WAR ENDED.
I WAS ABLE TO SELL QUITE A FEW.

AMAZ-
ING...

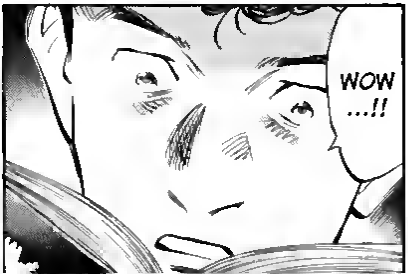

I USED TO DRAW ART FOR PAPER SHOWS.
BUT NOW THE AGE OF COMICS IS COMING.

RAJIMA
冒険漫画物語
新寶島
原作 構成 酒井七馬
作画 手塚治虫

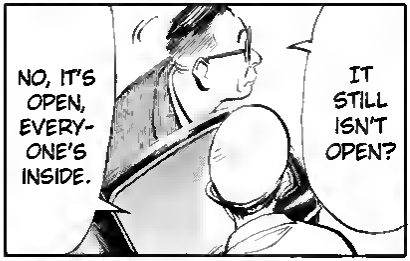

LOOK AT THIS, AND YOU'LL SEE.

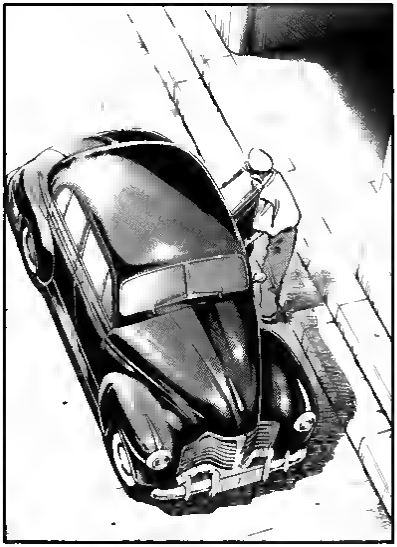
YES, THAT MAN IS A WORTHY RIVAL FOR ME.

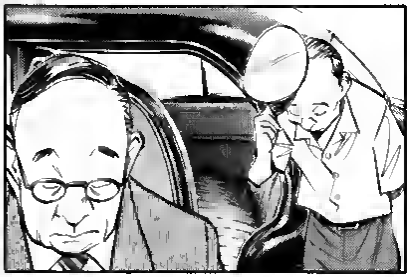
TEZUKA OSAMU GUY?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS...


WOW ...!!

I SUPPOSE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FORGIVE, THEN...
THE FACT THAT I STOLE YOUR IDEA...?
BUT BEFORE THAT, MY BAT WILL BECOME AN UNPRECEDENTED HIT.
.....
I SAID I WOULDN'T ALLOW IT, WOULD YOU QUIT DRAWING?
IF ...
HUH?
OR WHITE?
BLACK?
WAS THE BAT YOU SAW BLACK? OR WHITE?

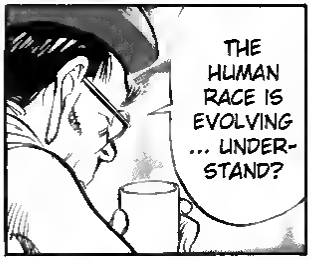

NO, IT'S OPEN, EVERY-ONE'S INSIDE.
IT STILL ISN'T OPEN?

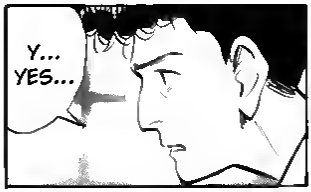


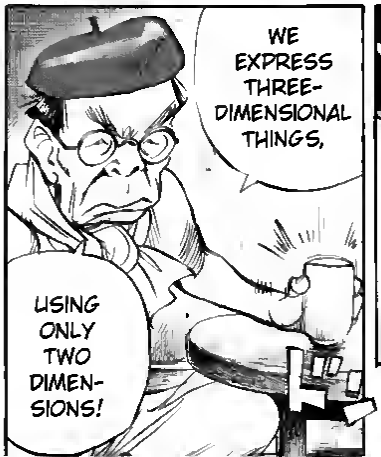


YES SIR.

I'LL BE FIVE MINUTES, SO PLEASE WAIT.


THE HUMAN RACE IS EVOLVING ... UNDERSTAND?


Y... YES...


WE EXPRESS THREE-DIMENSIONAL THINGS,
USING ONLY TWO DIMENSIONS!

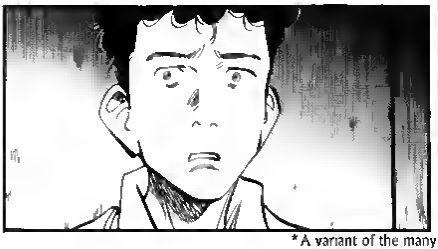
YES ...

THE HUMAN RACE IS EVOLVING THROUGH ART.

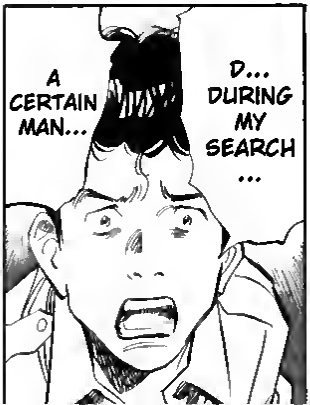
sha shah
FOR EXAMPLE, THIS.
sha sha
YES ...
SO THIS DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ANYTHING SPECIAL.
WE DRAW THINGS EVERY DAY,
WE ...
COPIED SOMEONE ELSE...
HOW DID WE FIGURE OUT HOW TO DRAW IT LIKE THIS?
PEOPLE DIDN'T DRAW THEM LIKE THIS FROM THE START.
SO THEN WHERE DID WE LEARN HOW TO DRAW THIS CUP?
UH... UMMM ...

HOW DID THE FIRST PERSON WHO DREW IT LIKE THIS FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO IT?
IN THAT CASE,
SOMEONE WHO COPIED SOMEONE ELSE...
AND WHO IS THAT SOMEONE?
HE COPIED SOMEONE ...
AND WHO WAS THAT?
HE ALSO MUST HAVE COPIED SOMEONE ELSE.
THEN HOW DID THAT PERSON LEARN HOW TO DRAW IT?
COPY OFF?
THEN WHO DID THE VERY FIRST PERSON TO DRAW A PICTURE EVER...
.....

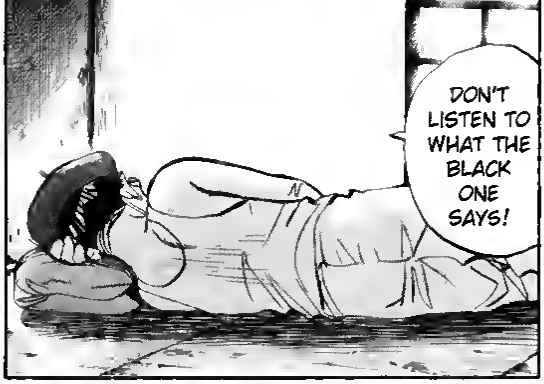
AT ANY RATE, SOMETHING WAS DRAWN ON A STONE WALL.
THAT'S THE POINT...
THE PICTURE DRAWN ON THAT STONE WALL...
WAS OF THIS BAT.

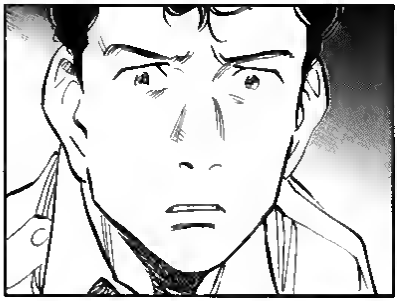


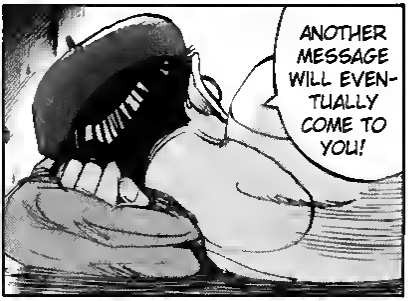
*A variant of the many grunts used by elderly people when they exert their bodies.

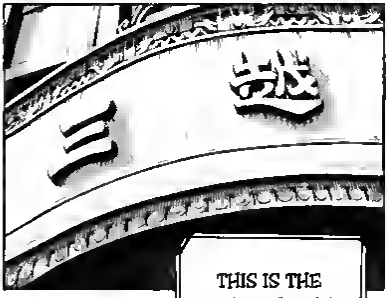


EH
...


DON'T LISTEN TO WHAT THE BLACK ONE SAYS!

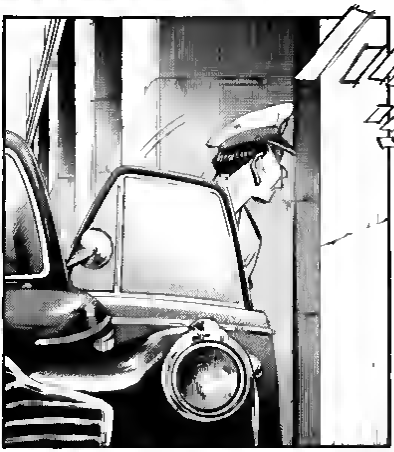



ANOTHER MESSAGE WILL EVENTUALLY COME TO YOU!



THIS IS THE FIVE O'CLOCK NEWS. THE PRESIDENT OF JAPAN NATIONAL RAILROADS, SHIMOYAMA SADANORI.

AFTER LEAVING HIS HOUSE THIS MORNING TO GO TO WORK,
IS SUSPECTED TO BE MISSING.



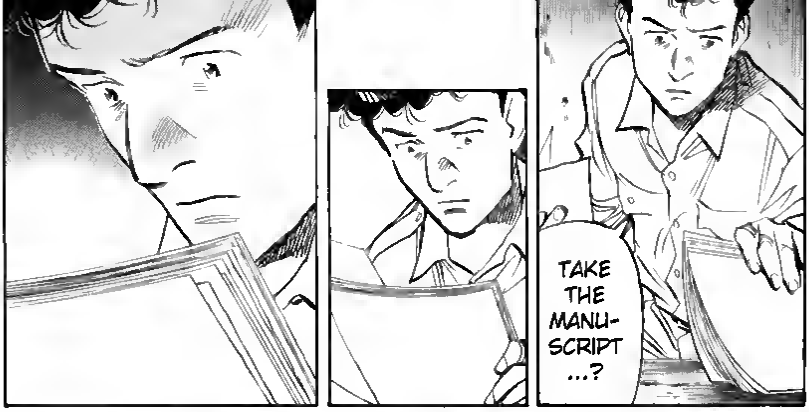
PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA GOT INTO A CAR DRIVEN BY A MAN NAMED KONISHI AT 8:20,

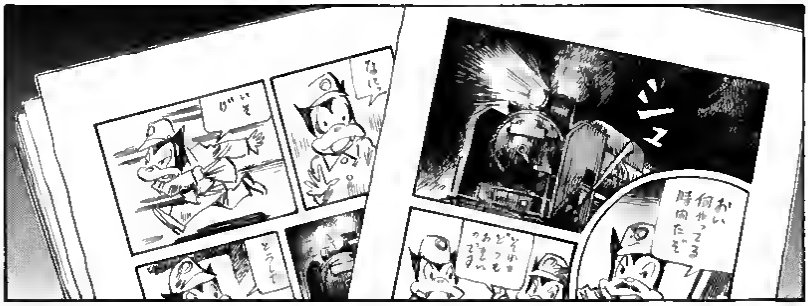
P...PRESIDENT!!
HE HAS BEEN DECLARED A MISSING PERSON!!

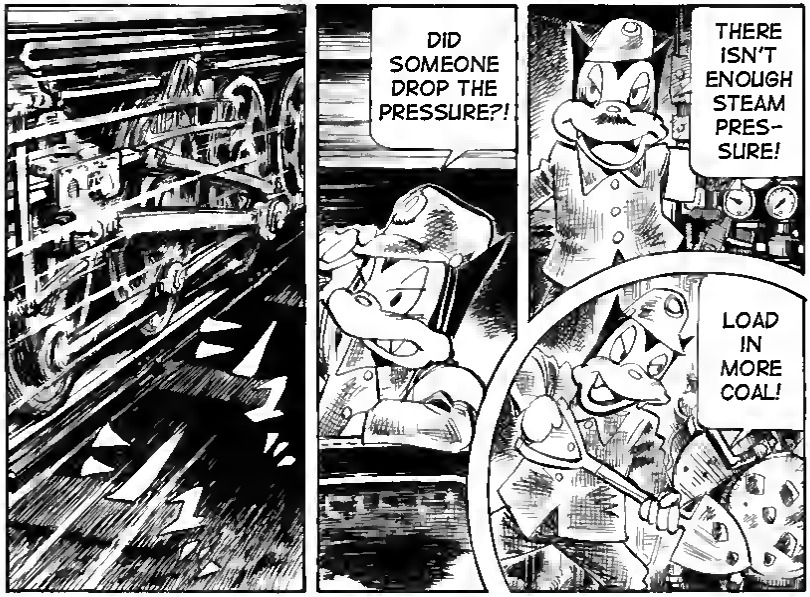
AND SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT FROM HIM SINCE THEN, AND HE IS ABSENT FROM HIS RESIDENCE IN KAMIIKEGAMI, IN OOTA WARD..
Haa
Haa

ふぅ
muuu…

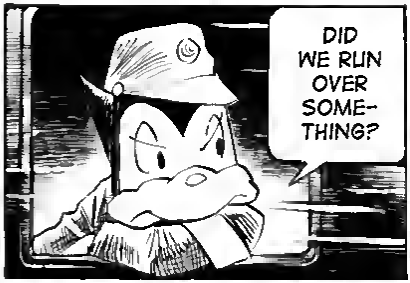
Zaaah
SENSEI ...?
To Kaneji-kun
SENSEI ...
?
Take this manuscript and run away from here.

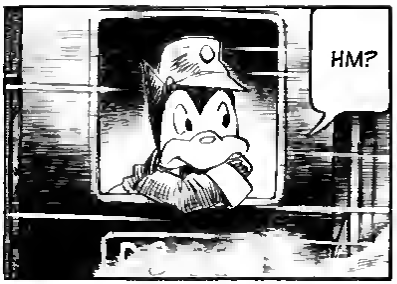

TAKE THE MANU-SCRIPT ...?



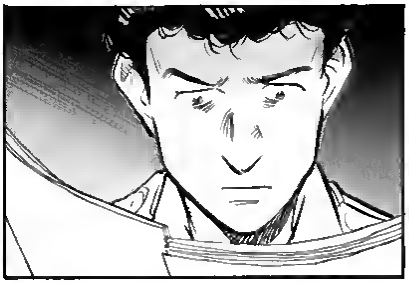

THERE ISN'T ENOUGH STEAM PRES-SURE!
DID SOMEONE DROP THE PRESSURE?!
LOAD IN MORE COAL!

ゴー


DID WE RUN OVER SOME-THING?


HM?

Naaah



AHH ...
TH... THIS IS HORRIBLE ...

Haa
Haa
BaSha
BaSha

HMM ...
FOUND HIS WALLET !!

THERE'S A LOT OF IDENTICAL BUSI-NESS CARDS IN HERE...
TH... THIS IS...

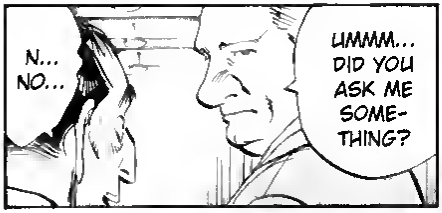
IS IT A MAN? OR A WOMAN?
IT'S A MAN!! HE'S IN PIECES !!

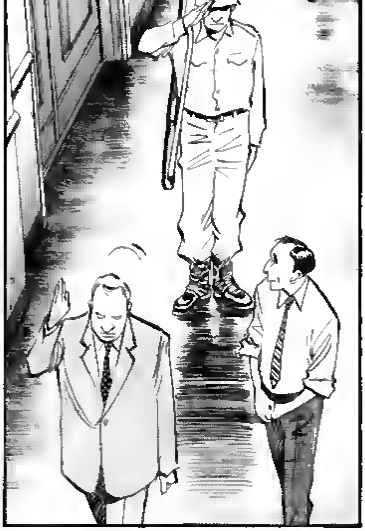
!!
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
THERE'S A NAME STAMP IN HERE TOO!!
THE NAME'S SMITH.
WH... WHO ARE YOU?
W-WE'VE GOT TROU-BLE HERE ...!!
A GUY FROM THE US ARMY, HUH ...?
THIS IS PRESIDENT SHIMO-YAMA'S CORPSE!!

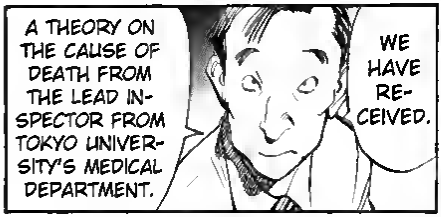
下山國鉄総裁、無残な
轢断死体で発見
深夜の怪自動車
今後の捜査に有力なカギ
常磐線
ON THE MORNING OF JULY 5TH, THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY, SHIMO-YAMA SADANORI REPORTEDLY LEFT HIS HOME IN OODA-KU IN A PUBLIC CAR, ENTERED THE MIKOSHI BUILDING IN NIHONBASHI, AND THEN DISAPPEARED.

HE WAS FOUND, BUT...
ON THE NEXT DAY, JULY 6TH, JUST A BIT AFTER 12:30 PM, THE PRESIDENT'S BODY WAS DISCOVERED ON THE TRACKS BETWEEN KITASENJUU AND AYASE STATIONS, AND WAS DECLARED AS HAVING BEEN RUN OVER BY A TRAIN.

I HEAR THAT THERE ARE SPLIT OPINIONS AS TO WHETHER IT WAS SUICIDE OR HOMICIDE...
YES, YOU HEARD RIGHT.
THE WOUNDS ON THE CORPSE WERE SO SEVERE THAT THEY STILL HAVEN'T DETERMINED THE TRUE CAUSE OF DEATH... APPARENTLY.
?
JUST WHAT DARTMENT DO YOU BELONG TO IN GHQ...?
AH... WAIT A MINUTE, SMITH-SAN.
Yes, sir!
I will inform you once I'm ready
MP
You're dismissed


N... NO...
UMMM... DID YOU ASK ME SOME-THING?




A THEORY ON THE CAUSE OF DEATH FROM THE LEAD IN-SPECTOR FROM TOKYO UNIVER-SITY'S MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.
WE HAVE RE-CEIVED.

THEY HAVE DECIDED THAT HE WAS RUN OVER POST-MORTEM.
SINCE THERE WERE HARDLY ANY "VITAL RE-ACTIONS" DISCOVERED IN THE WOUNDS ON PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA'S CORPSE,

HE WAS PLACED ON THE TRACKS AFTER HE DIED... WHICH MEANS...
YES, IN OTHER WORDS ...

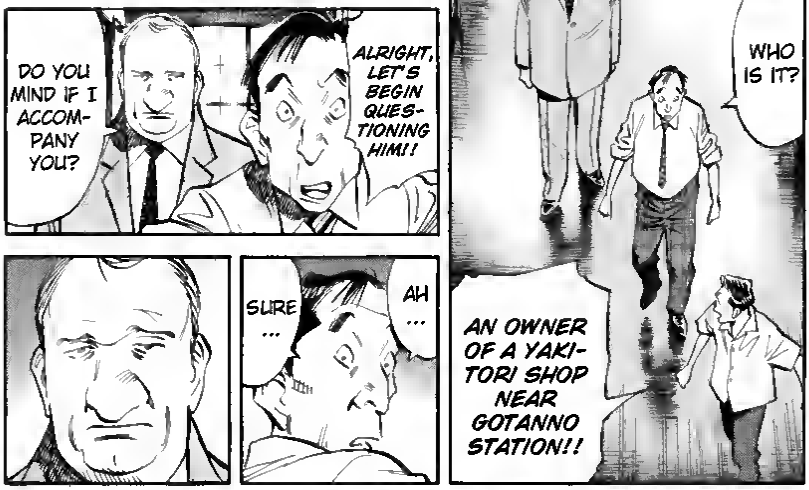
POST-MORTEM ?

Chapter 8 Signs

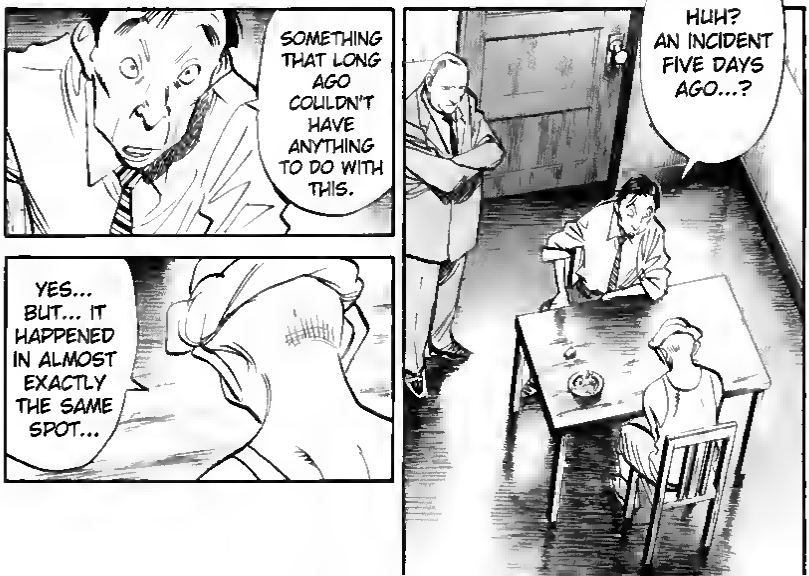
APPARENTLY THERE WASN'T MUCH BLOOD DISCOVERED ON THE CORPSE OR AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.
IT MEANS, YOU KNOW...
IN ADDITION, INTERNAL BLEEDING WAS DISCOVERED IN THE "VITAL REACTIONS" OF DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE CORPSE.
WHICH MEANS ...
ALL OF THE BLOOD IN THE BODY HAD ALREADY ESCAPED.
INTERNAL BLEEDING LIKE THIS IS OFTEN FOUND ON VICTIMS OF VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER, AND THERE IS ALSO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE BLOOD FROM THE CORPSE WAS WASHED AWAY IN THE RAIN THAT NIGHT...
INSPECTORS WHO SPECIALIZE IN HOMICIDES DETERMINED THAT THIS WAS A SUICIDE.
HE WAS THE VICTIM OF SOME KIND OF ASSAULT WHILE STILL ALIVE ...
OH YES ...
IF YOU ALREADY HAVE THAT MUCH PROOF, THEN WHY DOES THE SUICIDE THEORY STILL EXIST?

ALSO, ONE MORE THING THAT GIVES POWER TO THE SUICIDE THEORY...
IS THAT THEY FOUND A NUMBER OF WITNESSES WHO APPARENTLY SAW THE PRESIDENT ALONG THE TOUBU ISESAKI LINE FROM 6 TO 8 PM THAT NIGHT.
A MAN WHO LOOKED JUST LIKE PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA, WALKING ALONE DOWN THE TRACKS...
THE WITNESS WAS A WOMAN FROM THE INN.
HE WASN'T JUST SIGHTED WALKING, THOUGH. WE ALSO HAVE A REPORT THAT HE SPENT ABOUT THREE HOURS AT THE SUEHIRO INN CLOSE TO GOTANNO STATION.
DO YOU HAVE PROOF THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY HIM...?

ON THE DAY BEFORE HIS DEATH, AFTER HANDING OUT PINK SLIPS TO 30,000 PEOPLE, LEFTIST UNION WORKERS ORGANIZED AN ANGRY PROTEST
WELL, THE POINT IS, PRESIDENT SHIMOYAMA HAD LOST FACE DUE TO HIS HANDLING OF THE WORKERS OF THE NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY.
I CAN THINK OF ANOTHER REASON, TOO.
THE POINT IS, IT COULD HAVE EASILY BEEN HOMICIDE OR SUICIDE...
!!
ASSISTANT INSPECTOR SAGAWA !!
WE HAVE A NEW WITNESS !!
ANOTHER REASON ...?


WHO IS IT?
AN OWNER OF A YAKITORI SHOP NEAR GOTANNO STATION!!
ALRIGHT, LET'S BEGIN QUESTIONING HIM!!
DO YOU MIND IF I ACCOMPANY YOU?
AH...
SURE...

取調室


HUH? AN INCIDENT FIVE DAYS AGO...?
SOMETHING THAT LONG AGO COULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS.
YES... BUT... IT HAPPENED IN ALMOST EXACTLY THE SAME SPOT...

HMM MM...
...SO, WHAT? YOU SAW TWO GUYS CLIMBING UP THE BANK TOWARD THE TRACKS...?
YES ...
WHAT DID THEY HAVE WITH THEM?
A DRUM CAN ...?
A DRUM CAN THAT WAS CUT IN TWO, ALONG WITH SOMETHING THAT RESEMBLED A STRETCHER...
THERE WAS A GREAT AMOUNT OF OIL FOUND ON SHIMOYAMA'S CLOTHES.
IT LOOKED VERY HEAVY...

DID YOU SEE THE MEN'S FACES?
I DIDN'T SEE THE ONE...
BUT I GOT A GOOD LOOK AT THE OTHER.
IT WAS PRETTY DARK...
HE HAD A LONG, SLENDER FACE...
sha
sha
HMMM... THIN AND A BIT DROOPY.
HOW DID HIS EYES LOOK?
AND HIS HAIR?
HAIR... OH YEAH, HIS HAIR ...

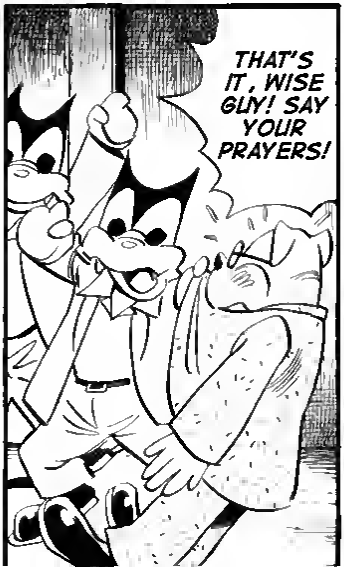
HE HAD A LONG POINTY NOSE... YEAH, LIKE THAT.
sha sha
AND REALLY CURLY.
IT WAS UNKEMPT,
sha sha
HMPH.
THAT LOOKS A LOT LIKE HIM.

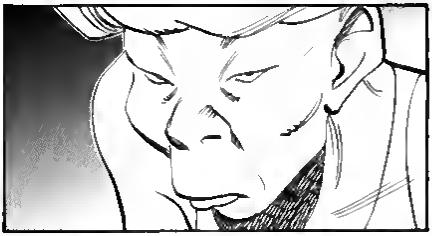
HAND THIS PORTRAIT OUT AND LABEL IT AS A KEY SUSPECT!!
YES SIR!!

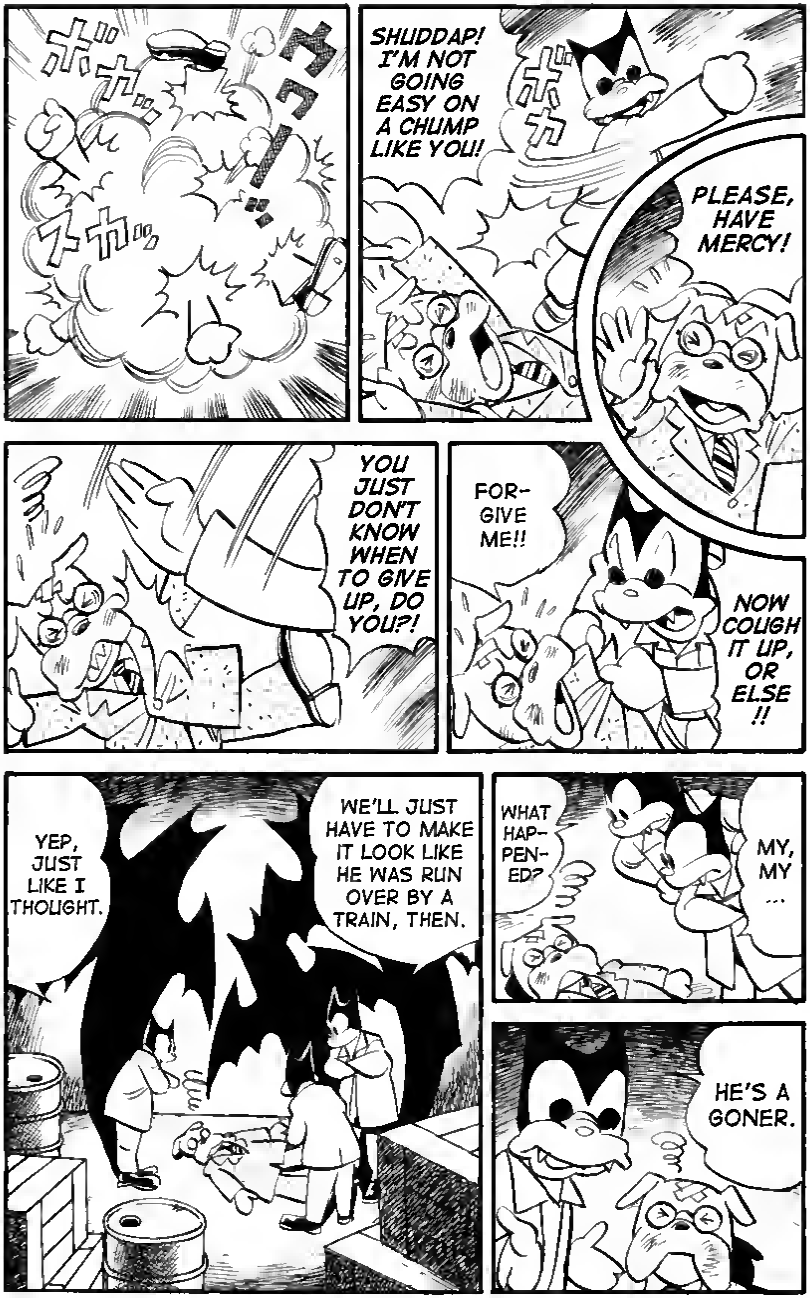
.....

YES, WE'LL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

AM I DONE NOW ...?


THAT'S IT, WISE GUY! SAY YOUR PRAYERS!




SHUDDAP! I'M NOT GOING EASY ON A CHUMP LIKE YOU!
PLEASE, HAVE MERCY!
YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN TO GIVE UP, DO YOU?!
FOR-GIVE ME!!
NOW COUGH IT UP, OR ELSE !!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE HE WAS RUN OVER BY A TRAIN, THEN.
YEP, JUST LIKE I THOUGHT.
WHAT HAP-PEN-ED?
MY, MY ...
HE'S A GONER.

下山国鉄総裁 無残な死
轢断死体で発見
常磐線
他殺説
Gatan Gotan
Gatan Gotan
THE INCIDENT WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL RAILROAD COMPANY AND THE MANGA THAT SENSEI DREW...
THEY'RE EXACTLY THE SAME ...

IS HE A PROPHET ...?
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THE INCIDENT HAPPENED THE DAY AFTER SENSEI DREW THIS...
AND WHAT I DID TO CHARLIE ...
BUT THIS INCIDENT WITH PRESIDENT SHIMO-YAMA...
HaH
HaH
DOSA...
AH... AHHH ...
GRAB IT TIGHTER!!

Gatan
Gotan
!!
Gatan
Gotan
IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME...
Gatan
Gotan
IS THIS SOME KIND OF CONSPI-RACY ...?
UUU ...
UUU ...
A MANGA ...
IT'S JUST LIKE ...

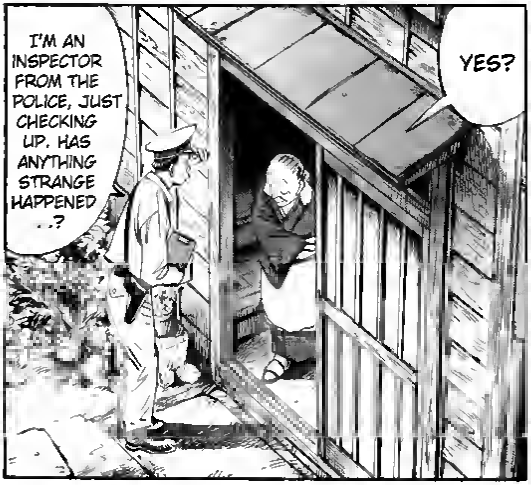
Take this manuscript and run away from here.
RUN AWAY? BUT WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO RUN TO, SENSEI...?
!!
CHARLIE... I'M SORRY, I'M GOING TO TURN MYSELF IN NOW...
I'M GOING TO TURN MYSELF IN...

POLICE...?!
IT'S THE POLICE! EXCUSE US!
DON DON
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
!!
EXCUSE US!

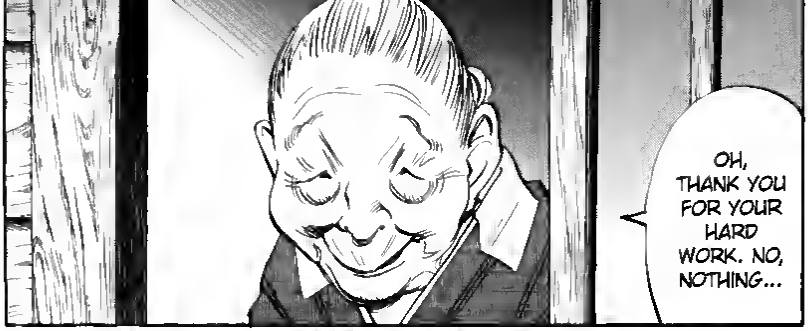
OWW
...

GUHAH!!

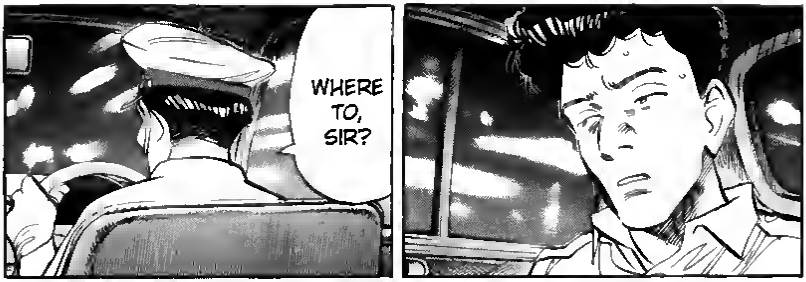
Haa
Haa
Haa


I'M AN INSPECTOR FROM THE POLICE, JUST CHECKING UP. HAS ANYTHING STRANGE HAPPENED ..?
YES?

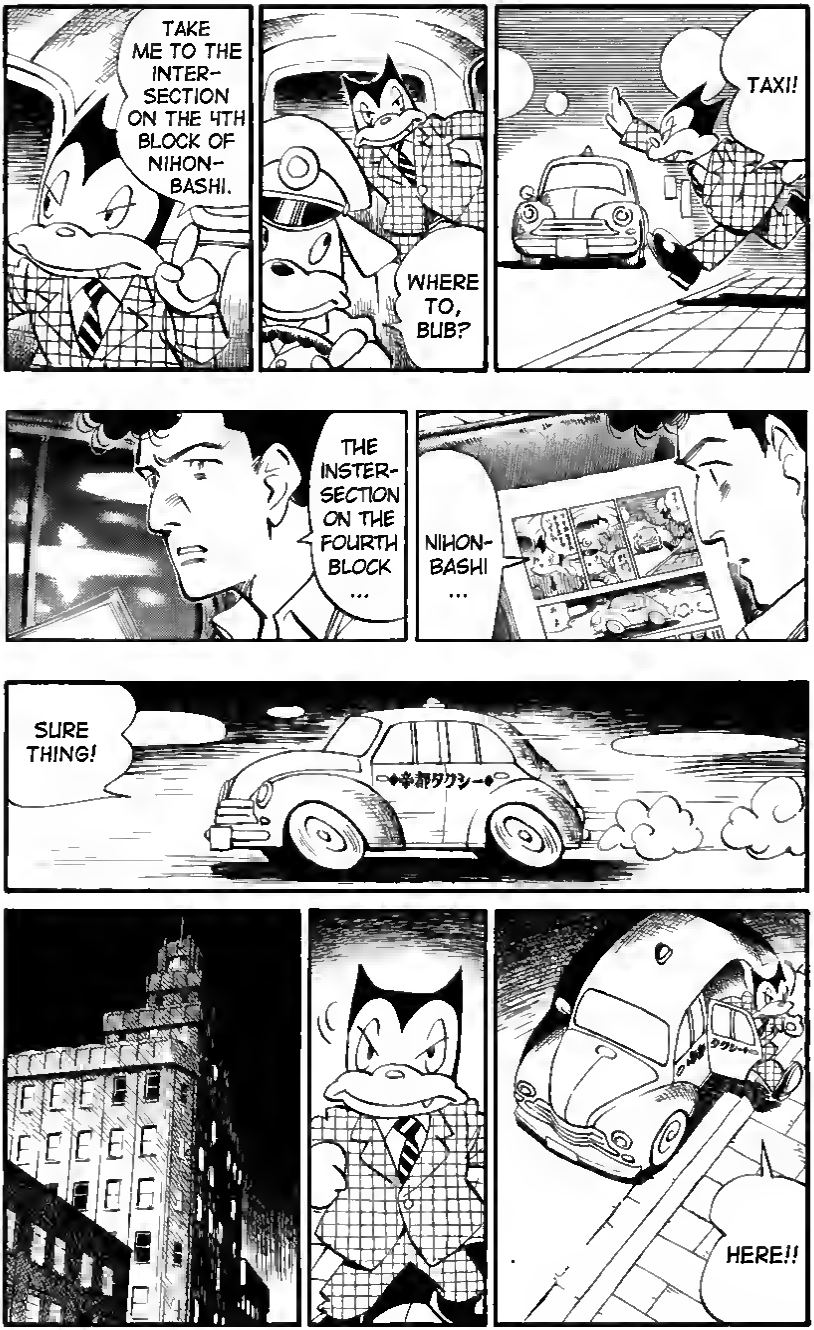
EXCUSE US!
富士旅館
DON DON

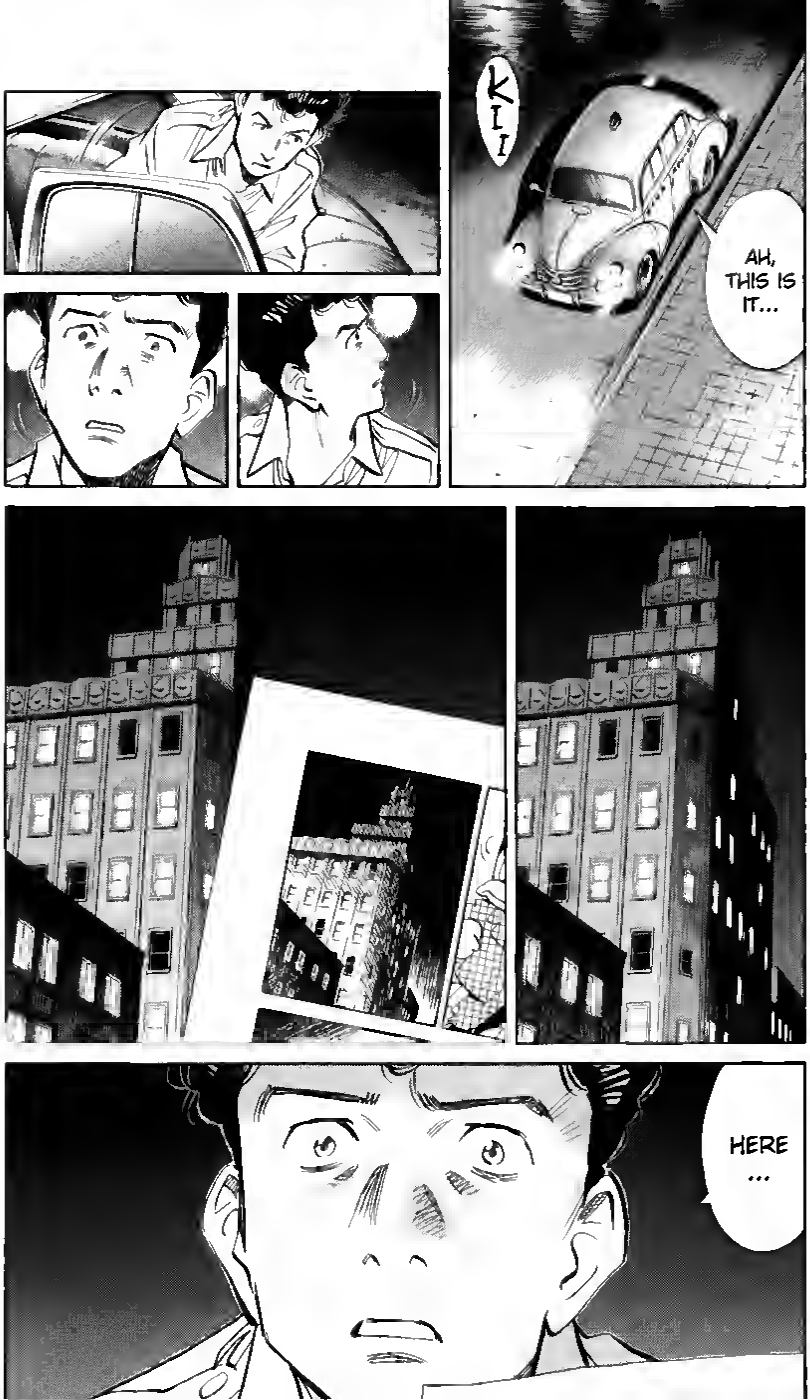

OH, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK. NO, NOTHING...

110


WHERE TO, SIR?

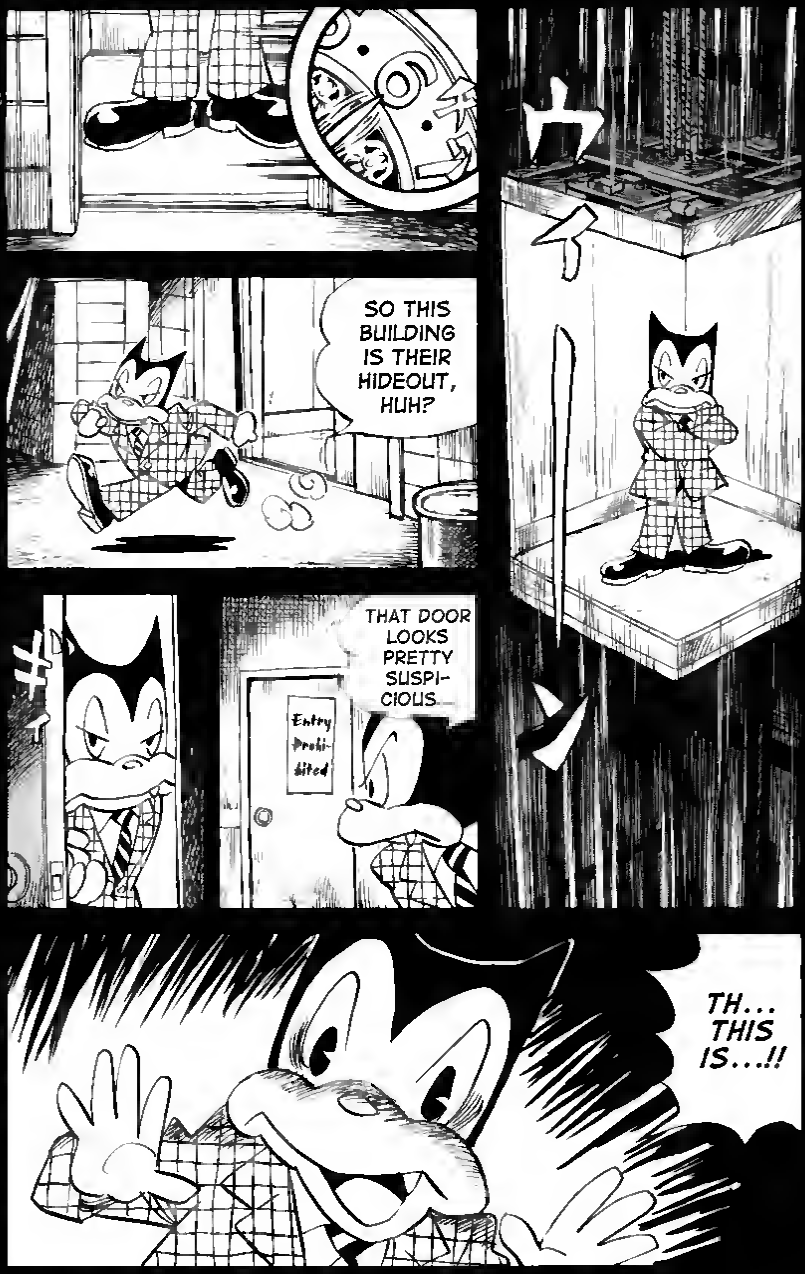
EH... AH... AHHH ...


TAKE ME TO THE INTER-SECTION ON THE 4TH BLOCK OF NIHON-BASHI.
WHERE TO, BUB?
TAXI!
THE INSTER-SECTION ON THE FOURTH BLOCK ...
NIHON-BASHI ...
SURE THING!
HERE!!


KII
AH, THIS IS IT...
HERE ...

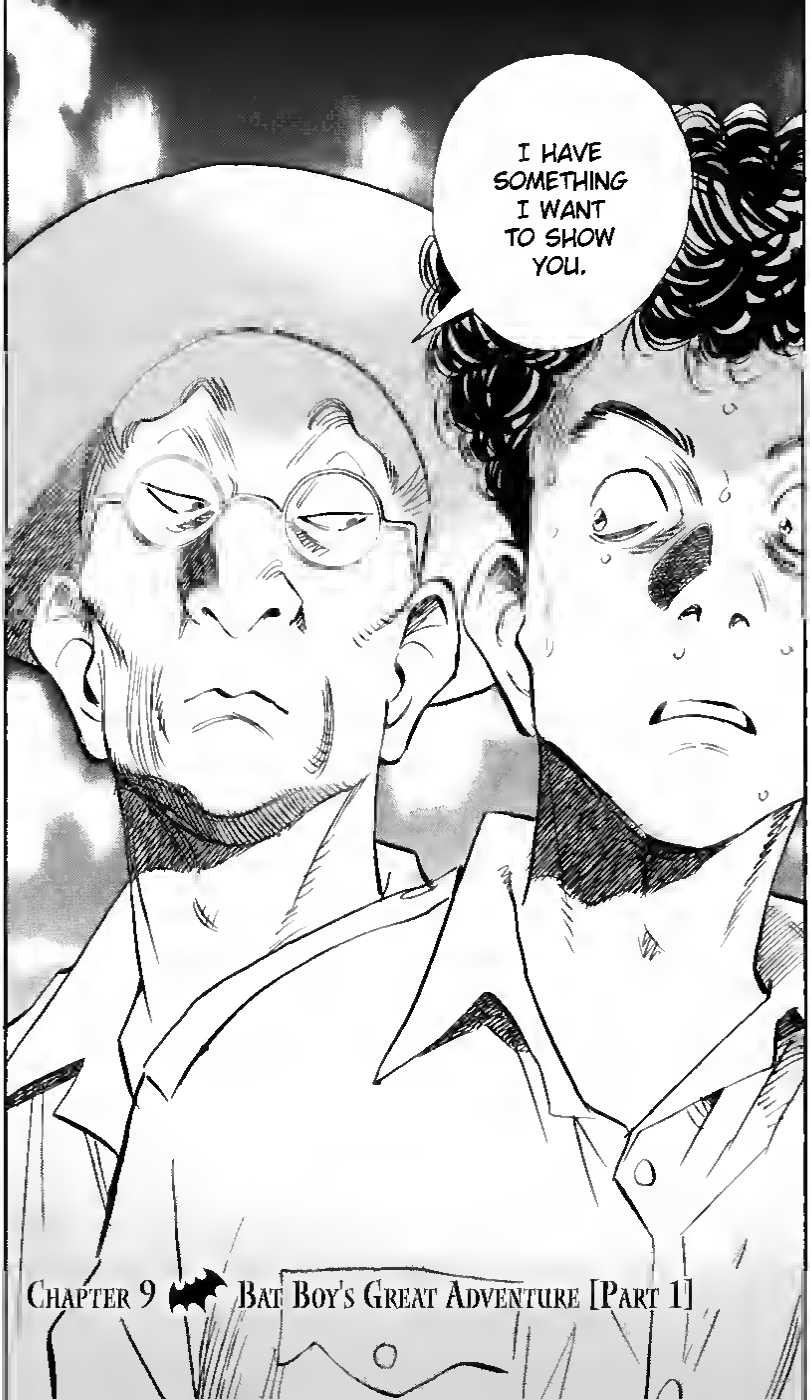
SO THIS IS WHERE THE BIG BAD WOLF IS, HUH?!
THE BIG BAD WOLF ...
!!

KU...
KURUSU
...!!


SO THIS BUILDING IS THEIR HIDEOUT, HUH?
THAT DOOR LOOKS PRETTY SUSPI-CIOUS...
Entry Prohi-bited
TH... THIS IS...!!

kah
kah
WHY ...
WHY DID KURUSU COME OUT FROM THIS BUILDING ...?

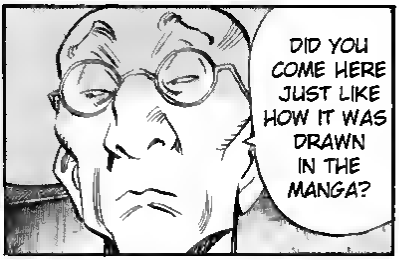
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HIDING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT...
!!
!!
AHHH
.....
!!

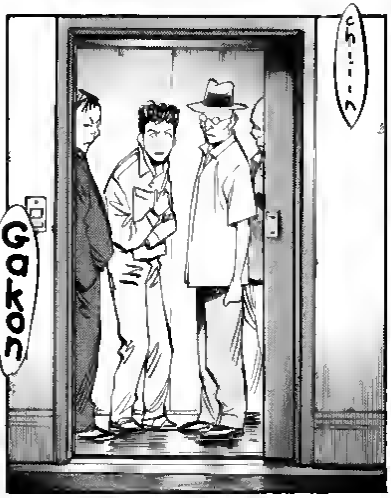


Chapter 9 Bat Boy's Great Adventure [Part 1]

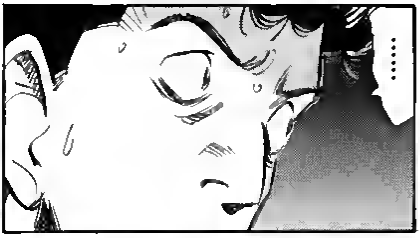
GET IN.
KAKOK
I FIGURED YOU'D COME HERE.
KAKOK
EH ...?
YOU GOT HERE QUICKER THAN I EXPECTED, THOUGH.
QUICK-ER THAN YOU EXPE-CTED ...?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE... WHY ARE YOU...?

Wh... why do you know about the manga...


DID YOU COME HERE JUST LIKE HOW IT WAS DRAWN IN THE MANGA?


ピーン
GAKON

HAVE I SHOWED UP YET? IN THE MANGA ...

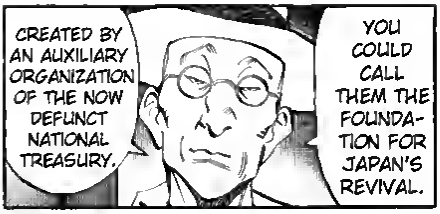

.....

YO.
GOOD EVENING.

GET OUT.

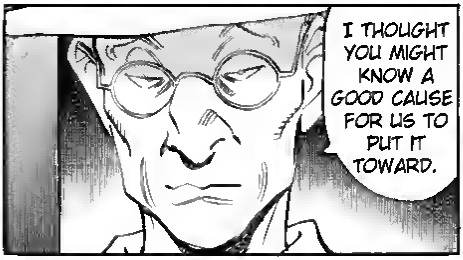
THEY'RE GUESTS HERE AT THE SALON.
SALON... GUESTS ...?
FRANK KITAGA-WA-SAN FROM THE CANON UNIT,
AND IKEUCHI-SAN FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY...
WHY WOULD SOMEONE FROM GHQ AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY BE TOGETHER?
Gasp
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
COME ON IN.
BECAUSE THIS IS THE SALON.

TH... THIS IS...!!
GOLD BARS. THEY'RE ALL AFTER THIS.
IT'S JUST LIKE IN THE MANGA...
.....


CREATED BY AN AUXILIARY ORGANIZATION OF THE NOW DEFUNCT NATIONAL TREASURY.
YOU COULD CALL THEM THE FOUNDATION FOR JAPAN'S REVIVAL.

WHERE DID YOU GET THESE ...

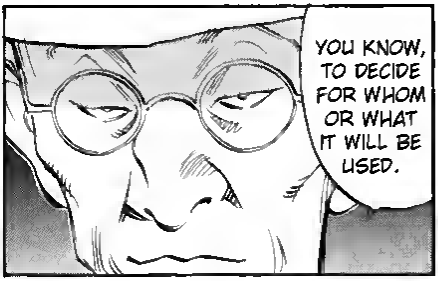
IT WAS ALL WITHDRAWN AS WAR FUNDS FROM JAPANESE CITIZENS AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES.
HUH?


I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT KNOW A GOOD CAUSE FOR US TO PUT IT TOWARD.

AND WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO BY SHOWING THIS TO ME?

WHITE? OR BLACK?
THERE'S NO WAY I'D BE ABLE TO ANSWER SUCH A ...

A GOOD CAUSE ...?


YOU KNOW, TO DECIDE FOR WHOM OR WHAT IT WILL BE USED.

WHICH ONE ARE YOU FOR, WHITE OR BLACK?
IT ALL DEPENDS ON THAT ANSWER ...
EH?
THAT'S WHY WE DIDN'T LET SHIMOYAMA HAVE IT.
HE GAVE US THE WRONG ANSWER.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!!
SHIMO-YAMA... THE PRESI-DENT...?
YOU... YOU'RE THE ONE...

CHARLIE...
!!
WHY DID YOU MAKE ME DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT?!
YOU... YOU'RE THE ONE...
SHOW ME THAT MANGA.
Th... the hero beats up the villain, of course!!
WHAT HAPPENS IN THE BATTLE BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK IN THE MANGA?

YOU'RE USE-LESS.
SHOULD WE KILL YOU AT MITAKA, OR FUKU-SHIMA?
YOU FAIL.
HUH? THAT'S STRANGE... THE TRUTH SHOULD BE WRITTEN THERE...
ST... STOP ...
YO, YOO ...
HI/EEEEEE!!
FOR NOW, JUST TAKE HIM TO THE KOSUGE FACTORY.
HIE ...?
LONG TIME NO SEE.
!!
WHAT ARE YOU ALL HAVING SO MUCH FUN WITH IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

WELL, WHATEVER... THIS GUY IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, SO I'M GONNA BORROW HIM FOR A BIT.
YO, KUROSU-KUN. I SEE YOU REALLY LIKE THAT HAT I GAVE YOU.
IT'S KURU-SU.
MY NAME ISN'T KUROSU,
ナニ!
TH... THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SAVING ME.
GAKON
GAKON
IF POS-SIBLE, COULD I HAVE YOUR NAME...
GAKON
GAKON
ナニ

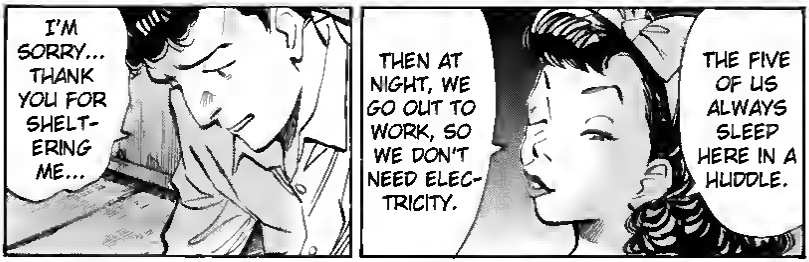
SHIRASU JIROU.
SHI-RASU ...
HOW SHOULD I REPAY YOU...?
YOU DON'T NEED TO. RUN.
ド...ドン
OKAY!!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SURVIVE ON YOUR OWN FROM HERE ON OUT.
NOW RUN, AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

Haa
Haa
Karan
Haa
Haa
Haa

Haa
Haa
What's going on...
!!
sniff
sniff
What was all that about... black and white.
Asking me which one I am...

!!
HIC!
HI-
YOU ARE ...
DID A CUSTOMER DO SOMETHING TO YOU?!
IT'S TO BE EXPECTED, IN THIS KIND OF JOB...
WHAT ARE THOSE WOUNDS FROM ...?!
NOTHING!!
BUT ...
UWAAAAHHH!!

THERE'S NO ELEC-TRICITY, YOU KNOW.
O... OHH ...


I'M SORRY... THANK YOU FOR SHELT-ERING ME...
THEN AT NIGHT, WE GO OUT TO WORK, SO WE DON'T NEED ELEC-TRICITY.
THE FIVE OF US ALWAYS SLEEP HERE IN A HUDDLE.

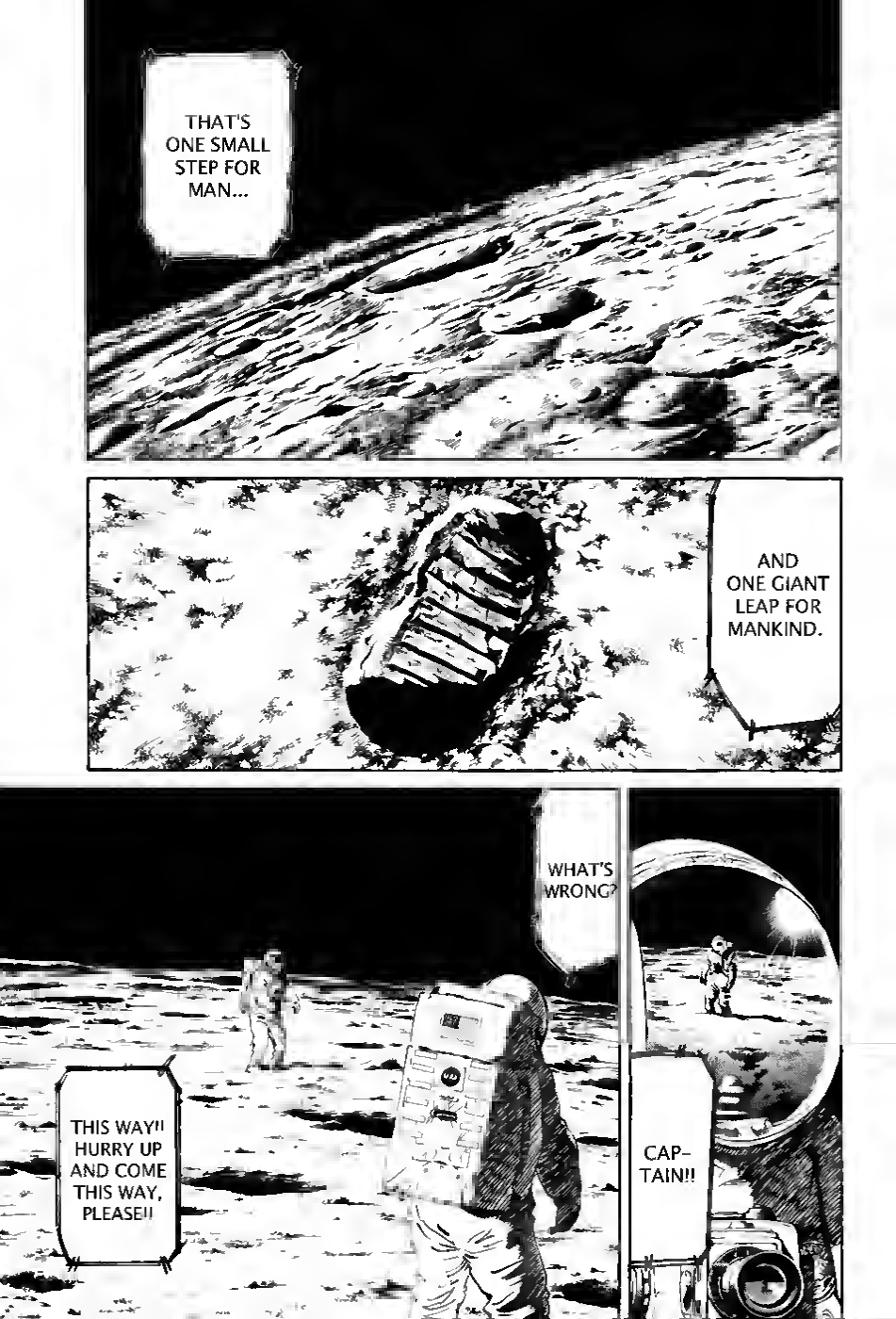
I WAS THINKING ABOUT IT...
YOUR STORY ...
YES, BUT...
NO, IT'S NO TROUBLE.

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT YOU KILLED YOUR FRIEND.
IT'S TRUE ...
THANK YOU...
IT'S TRUE! YOU DIDN'T DO IT!!
HEY, HEY, WA... WAIT A MINUTE!!

DRAW MY PICTURE.
I... I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR THAT...
YOU'RE AN ARTIST, RIGHT?
I KNOW I'M A LITTLE DIRTY...
THAT'LL BE NO TROUBLE AT ALL ...
YOU'RE VERY PRETTY.
JUST FIB A LITTLE AND DRAW ME BEAUTIFULLY.

NO, THE MOON IS WATCHING OVER US...
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE THE MOON IS PRETTY.
sha sha sha
IF SOMEONE WAS THERE, LOOKING DOWN ON US WITH A BIG TELE-SCOPE...
AND NEITHER DID I...
YOU DIDN'T TAKE THE WRONG PATH.

THEY'D TELL US WE AREN'T ON THE WRONG PATHS...
IF SOMEONE WAS REALLY THERE...


THAT'S ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN...
AND ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND.
WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS WAY!! HURRY UP AND COME THIS WAY, PLEASE!!
CAP-TAIN!!

WHA
...?!
THIS
...!!
JUST
WHAT
DID
YOU
FIND?
WHAT
IS THIS
...?!

BILLY BAT（ビリーバット）
1

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BILLY BAT ①

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